

LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF



GILLINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year ended 31st December, 1950

By

W. A. MUIR, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

1951

BOROUGH OF



GILLINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

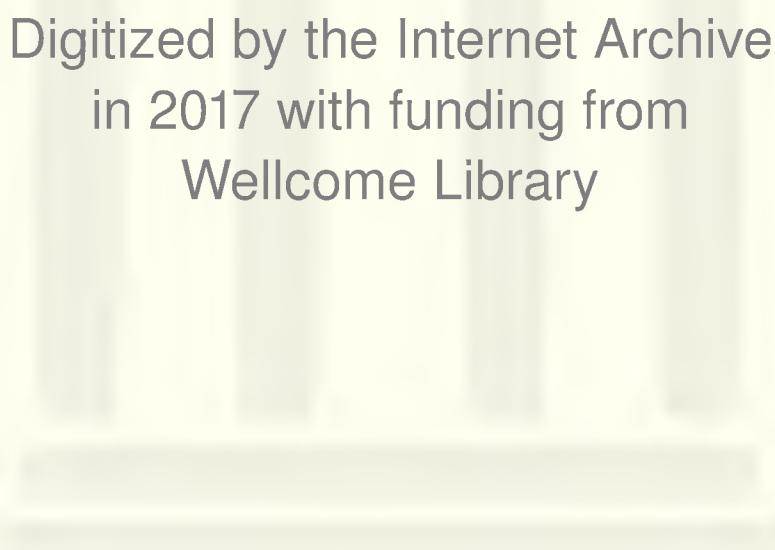
for the Year ended 31st December, 1950

By

W. A. MUIR, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

1951



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b2925548x>

Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

April, 1951.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

This is my final report, and the twenty-seventh that I have submitted to you.

During these years, the health services were greatly expanded and improved and in July, 1948, when many health functions were transferred to the County Council, the Borough of Gillingham provided facilities for its ratepayers second to none in the County of Kent.

The maternity and child welfare and school health services were held in modern buildings specially constructed for these purposes, and this naturally proved advantageous to patients and staff.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for their continuous support during these years.

I have also to acknowledge the valuable assistance of the Staff, without which it would have been impossible to administer the department efficiently.

The figures in this report have been compiled by Mr. Pett, Chief Clerk.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. MUIR,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF—PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS

Medical Officer of Health:

*W. A. Muir, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

*Meta L. Dunlop, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

A. L. Kelly, B.A., M.B. (part time—resigned 31/5/50).

G. E. Hughes (part time—commenced 1/1/50).

R. I. Porter (part time—commenced 1/6/50).

Dental Surgeon:

William C. Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S. (School Health Service)

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

*F. J. Hedgecock, Cert.S.I.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

*R. C. Langley, Cert.S.I.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*F. G. Barney, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*L. Trice, Cert.S.I.B. (resigned 15/4/50).

*A. G. Brimble, Cert.S.I.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*N. Smith, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*H. H. Coutts, Cert.S.I.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (commenced 3/7/50).

Health Visitors: (School Health Service)

*(a) N. Legg, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

*(a) E. M. Ross, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.C.N.

*(b) H. Parry, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

*(b) J. Tombleson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

*(b) E. W. Jordan, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

*(c) H. V. Wilson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

*(d) A. C. Neesam, S.R.N., S.C.M. (part-time).

Chief Clerk:

S. Pett.

Clerks:

J. Clark.

E. Dwyer.

R. C. Avery. (School Health Service).

P. J. Bowgen.

B. Verrall.

P. B. Sayer.

Dental Attendant :

L. Scott.

Disinfecter and Mortuary Attendant:

John Sparks.

Rodent Operative:

V. C. Barker.

NOTES.

* Indicates officials to whose salaries contribution is made under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

- (a) General trained nurse, half time to School Health Service.
- (b) General trained nurse, one-third time to School Health Service.
- (c) General trained nurse, three-quarters time devoted to School Health Service.
- (d) General trained nurse, School and Clinic Nurse.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres (land, inland water and foreshore)...	11,201
Rateable Value (April, 1950)	£387,147
Estimated Sum Represented by a Penny Rate (1950-51)	£1,570
In 1949-50 the total Rates were 19/6 in the £ (excluding water rates and charges).	

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Total Population (Registrar General) ...	75,470
--	--------

Live Births

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident civilian population	13.8
---	------

Still Births

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	20.0
--	------

Deaths (all causes)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	10.6
--	------

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)
Puerperal and post abortive sepsis ...	0.00
Other Maternal Causes	0.00
Total ...	0.00

Death Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1,000 live births	35
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	21

Deaths in Public Institutions

Two hundred and seventy-two or 33 per cent. of the total, took place in Institutions.

Natural Increase of Population

This is measured by the excess of births over deaths. The figure for the year 1950 was 237 and for previous years as follows:—

Year	Natural Increase of Population							
1941	239
1942	287
1943	468
1944	544
1945	527
1946	728
1947	647
1948	496
1949	325
1950	237

Cancer

					Cancer Death Rate.		Percentage of Total Deaths.	
1941	1.8	...	12.7
1942	2.0	...	14.7
1943	2.0	...	16.1
1944	2.0	...	15.9
1945	2.1	...	16.6
1946	1.9	...	15.9
1947	1.9	...	15.0
1948	2.4	...	19.9
1949	2.1	...	15.9
1950	1.8	...	16.4

Violence

Deaths from motor vehicle accidents numbered 8, from suicide 18 and from "all other accidents" 37.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Smallpox

No cases were notified during 1950.

Scarlet Fever

Notifications numbered 82. 39 cases were removed to hospital. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria

No cases were notified.

TABLE SHOWING NOTIFICATIONS OF DIPHTHERIA
From 1918 to 1950

Period	No. Notified	Deaths Registered.
1918-27	78 (Avg.)	—
1928	213	10
1929	179	17
1930	42	1
1931	19	1
1932	8	—
1933	17	1
1934	52	4
1935	27	5
1936	17	2
1937	42	1
1938	157	4
1939	86	1
1940	28	1
1941	5	—
1942	7	—
1943	3	—
1944	3	—
1945	2	—
1946	2	—
1947	NIL	—
1948	4	—
1949	NIL	—
1950	NIL	—

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX, 1950

The following is a return of (A) the number of children resident in the Borough of Gillingham, who were immunised against diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1950:—

(A) Diphtheria Immunisation

Year of Birth	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	Total
Primary Inoculations	50	624	110	23	16	25	23	15	6	1	3	3	1	3	3	915
Immunised in 1949 and received in 1950	—	10	46	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50
Reinforcing inoculations	—	—	—	1	18	264	242	41	11	15	8	30	17	35	41	729
Immunised in 1949 and received in 1950	—	—	—	8	3	2	12	4	1	2	2	2	—	—	1	35

(B) Vaccination

Age at 31st Dec., 1950	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	362	296	41	55	754
Number Re-Vaccinated	—	15	29	115	159

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, 1950

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Borough of Gillingham under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1950, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1936).

Year of Birth	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total
—	677	866	871	821	937	931	751	980	1195	1129	1024	970	1203	1080	50	13112

Puerperal Pyrexia

No cases were notified.

Enteric Fever Group

A case of food poisoning due to *B. Aertrycke* was reported in a woman aged 59 years.

Anterior Poliomyelitis

Three cases were notified, 2 of which were confirmed. One was of the non-paralytic type.

Pneumonia

Cases notified numbered :—

Lobar pneumonia	...	...	...	...	30
Broncho pneumonia	...	...	...	...	—
Influenza pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2
Acute primary pneumonia	...	...	...	...	9
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	13
					—
Total				...	54
					—

Measles and Whooping Cough

		Number of cases notified	Deaths
Measles	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	211	—
		201	—

Hospital Treatment of Infectious Diseases

Admissions to Keycol Hill Hospital numbered 35 compared with 38 in the previous year.

The following table gives details :—

Disease		Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	33	—

* 1 case proved to be Hemiplegia.

Disinfections

Houses disinfected by Formalin spraying in connection with tuberculosis cases numbered 231 compared with 184 in the previous year.

Tuberculosis

Notification of new cases :—

				Pulmonary Rate per 1,000 of population	Non-Pulmonary Rate per 1,000 of population
1941	...	...	...	1.3	0.5
1942	...	...	...	1.5	0.4
1943	...	...	...	1.7	0.4
1944	...	...	...	2.27	0.5
1945	...	...	...	1.24	0.5
1946	...	...	...	1.45	0.4
1947	...	...	...	1.69	0.3
1948	...	...	...	1.05	0.3
1949	...	...	...	1.07	0.2
1950	...	...	...	0.86	0.1

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1930

			Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Total
Number on Register at 1st January,					
1950	464	101
Number on Register at 31st December, 1950					
	465	97
					562

Notifications

Table compiled from local records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc., of notified new cases during 1950.

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	1	1	—	1
5—15 "	1	3	—	1
15—25 "	11	14	1	3
25—35 "	5	3	—	—
35—45 "	6	5	—	1
45—55 "	5	2	1	1
55—65 "	7	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—
Total	36	29	3	7

Tuberculosis Death Rate

The following table is inserted for purposes of comparison :

Year	Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1941	0.91	0.78	0.12
1942	0.92	0.73	0.19
1943	0.87	0.74	0.13
1944	0.83	0.72	0.11
1945	0.62	0.48	0.14
1946	0.74	0.63	0.11
1947	0.71	0.58	0.13
1948	0.61	0.55	0.06
1949	0.50	0.47	0.03
1950	0.39	0.33	0.06

Particulars of patients from the Gillingham Area dealt with at the County Tuberculosis Dispensary, Gillingham, during 1950.

(These figures were kindly supplied by Dr. S. R. C. Price, Chest Physician).

	Adults		Children		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary	40	29	2	1	42	30
Non-pulmonary	2	7	3	1	5	8
Total	42	36	5	2	47	38
	78		7		85	
Non-tuberculous ...	179	250	64	87	243	337
Grand Total	221	286	69	89	290	375
	507		158		665	

Total attendances numbered 2814.

Institutional Treatment

Institutions to which patients were sent during 1950 :—

All Saints' Hospital, Chatham	...	...	...	15
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester	...	...	...	1
Grosvenor Sanatorium, Ashford	...	...	...	3
Lenham Sanatorium, Nr. Maidstone	...	...	...	4
Grove Park Hospital, Lee	...	...	...	6
Royal Sea Pathing Hospital, Margate	...	...	...	6
Bevendean Hospital, Brighton	...	...	...	1
Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup	...	...	...	3
Preston Hall, Aylesford	...	...	...	1
Kettlewell Hospital, Swanley	...	...	...	4
Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards	...	...	...	1
Orpington Hospital	...	...	...	1
Fairlight Sanatorium, Hastings	...	...	...	2
Nayland Sanatorium, Colchester	...	...	...	1
St. Mary's Hospital, Broadstairs	...	...	...	2
Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital, Alton	...	...	...	1
<hr/>				
Total	...	...	...	52
<hr/>				

Venereal Diseases

I am indebted to Dr. Prebble, Director of the County Council V.D. Clinic in Rochester, for the subjoined figures.

New Patients—Gillingham :

		Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	...	4	4	8
Soft sore	...	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa	...	8	3	11
Non-Venereal	...	31	15	46
<hr/>				
Totals	...	43	22	65
<hr/>				

Infant Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 37, which represents an infant mortality rate of 35 per 1,000 births.

The rate for London was 26, for England and Wales 29, and for "the Great Towns" including London, 33.

Maternal Mortality

There were no deaths associated with pregnancy. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.86.

ANALYSIS OF INFANT DEATHS DURING 1950

CAUSE OF DEATH (Local register)	AGE AT DEATH						Total under 1 year
	Under 1 week	1 and under 2 weeks	2 and under 3 weeks	3 and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 and under 3 months	
	Under 1 week	1 and under 2 weeks	2 and under 3 weeks	3 and under 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 and under 3 months	
Prematurity ..	10	—	—	—	10	—	—
Gastro-enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia ..	—	1	—	—	1	3	5
Atelectasis ..	—	7	—	—	7	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
Marasmus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes ..	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
ALL CAUSES ..	22	1	—	—	23	4	6
						1	3
							37

ANALYSIS OF BIRTHS AND INFANT DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1940 TO 1950

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Number of still births	26	33	35	31	28	22	41	39	25	15	21
Number of neo-natal deaths	29	21	35	30	29	31	33	33	21	28	23
Total number of still births and neo-natal deaths	55	54	70	61	57	53	74	72	46	43	44
Number of deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	11	18	20	21	28	31	16	32	14	14	14
Number of live births	931	931	994	1138	1212	1231	1470	1446	1261	1154	1046
Number of still births	26	33	35	31	28	22	41	39	25	15	21
Total live and still births	957	964	1029	1169	1240	1253	1511	1485	1286	1169	1067

MORTALITY RATES CALCULATED PER 1,000 LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

Still births	27	34	34	26	22	17	27	26	19	13	20
Neo-natal deaths	31	22	35	25	23	24	22	22	16	24	21
Deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	12	19	20	18	22	24	10	22	11	12	13
Still births and all deaths up to 1 year	69	75	88	70	68	66	59	71	47	49	54
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	47	44	56	45	47	50	33	45	28	36	35

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Thirty-eight water samples were taken during the year; 12 from the Gillingham area and 26 from the Rainham area. All proved satisfactory.

10,414 dwellings are supplied directly from the mains, this is 98.3% of the total number of dwellings in the Borough, which consist of:—

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	18,911
Houses and shops	...	...	...	...	...	699
Houses and business premises	...	...	...	...	...	29
Licensed houses	...	...	...	...	...	96
Boarding houses	...	...	...	...	...	5
						<hr/>
Total dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	19,740
						<hr/>

Sanitary Inspection

This portion of the report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr. F. J. Hedgecock, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Premises, Etc., Visited During 1950

No. of Visits

Milk shops and dairies and retailers of bottled sterilised milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Factories, workshops and workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	322
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Re notified infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	267
Houses (filthy or verminous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Refreshment houses or premises where food is prepared							228
School lavatories	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shops under Shops Acts...	...	...	...	...	...	...	916
Public lavatories	...	...	...	...	...	...	4907
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	917
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	2100

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The subjoined table shows the premises on the registers and the number of inspections made.

			On Register 31st Dec.	No of visits during 1950
Bakehouses	...	...	27	49
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	14	
Retailers of bottled sterilised milk	...	...	49	298
Slaughterhouses	...	...	—	9
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	37	54
Pressed and Preserved Meat Premises	...	...	42	4
Restaurants	...	...	43	228

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Particulars of samples taken by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:—

Articles				No. of Samples
Ice Cream	...	...	...	10
Sponge Mixture	...	...	...	1
Soft Drinks	...	...	...	1
Tapioca Flakes	...	...	...	1
Castor Oil	...	...	...	1
Curry Powder	...	...	...	1
Friars Balsam	...	...	...	1
Non-Brewed Vinegar	...	...	...	2
Malt Vinegar	...	...	...	2
Jelly Crystals	...	...	...	2
Meat Soups	...	...	...	1
Bloater Paste	...	...	...	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	...	...	...	1
Sage Stuffing	...	...	...	1
Coffee Extract	...	...	...	1
Cornflour	...	...	...	1
Jams	...	...	...	2
Flavouring Essence	...	...	...	1
Cachous	...	...	...	1
Sausages	...	...	...	5
Pork Sausages	...	...	...	1
Pickles	...	...	...	1
Dessert Powder	...	...	...	1
Custard Powder	...	...	...	2
Bun Flour	...	...	...	1
Self-Raising Flour	...	...	...	1
Milk	...	...	...	59
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	2
Salad Cream	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	—	106

Proceedings were taken in one case; the vendor was fined £10 and ordered to pay £2. 2s. od. costs.

Unsound Food

Amount of food condemned weighed 3 tons, 1 cwts. 3 qrs. and 13 lbs. This included tinned foods, flour, cheese and hams.

Housing Summary

1.	Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1565
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	3774
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	145
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	278
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	20
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	235
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	463
3.	Action under statutory powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	704
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	799
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	17
(b)	Proceedings under Housing Act :—	
(1)	Demolition Orders	18
(2)	Closing Orders	—
(3)	Undertakings not to re-let for human habitation	2
(4)	Houses demolished during 1950 as the result of formal action under the Act ...	3

Nuisances Abated

Water Closets :

Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	3
New L.C.C. pans and traps fitted	...	...	...	...	50
Water closets re-built	...	...	...	...	3
New water closets constructed	...	...	...	...	7
Water closet fittings repaired (water)	...	...	...	...	105
Water closet seats, doors, floors, brickwork repaired...	...	...	...	...	67
Water closet pans cleansed by tenants	...	...	...	...	NIL

Water Supply :

Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Internal supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	1

Yards :

Drained and paved with cement concrete	24
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Sinks and Baths :

Glazed stoneware sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sink waste pipes provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	...	28

Drainage :

Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	331
Subsidiary sewers cleared by Health Department	...	...	...	...	...	901
Drains cleared by owners	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Inspection chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	28
Cesspools cleared by Health Department	...	...	...	...	...	405

Dampness :

Roofs repaired and made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	355
Eaves guttering and down pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	237
External walls protected from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	131
Internal walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	400
Damp-proof courses inserted	...	...	...	...	...	110
Ventilation provided under floors	...	...	...	...	...	17
Forecourts paved with cement concrete	...	...	...	...	...	1

General

Disused cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	4
Accumulation of refuse in yard removed	...	...	...	...	8
Dangerous cellar flaps repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Cooking ranges and coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	138
Sashes, doors, frames, floors, and stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	502
Ceilings repaired and distempered	...	...	...	...	237
Back additions underpinned and repaired	...	...	...	...	NIL
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	65

Preliminary and Abatement Notices

During the year the following notices were served :—

Informal Notices for the abatement of various nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	703
Abatement Notices concerning various nuisances (Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936)	...	...	...	...	...	235
Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Maintenance of a public sewer)	...	...	...	...	...	268
Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Defective sanitary appliance)	...	...	...	...	...	86
Section 44 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Construction of W.C.)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Notice to repair defective closet)	...	...	...	...	...	50
Section 50 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Leaking Cesspools)	...	...	...	...	...	16
Gillingham Corporation Act, 1931, Section 72, respecting choked or defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	72
Section 56 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Yard Paving)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Provision of Dustbins)	...	...	...	...	...	34
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1479

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

		Rats	Mice
Number of complaints received	...	160	89
Infestations found	...	147	87
Infestations found on independent investigation	...	86	33

Action taken :—

Premises treated by Operator	...	222	113
Premises treated by Occupiers	...	8	7
Premises awaiting treatment	...	3	—

Estimated Kill :—

By poison	...	...	...	1433	—
Traps or other means	...	...	...	93	348

Sewer Treatment :—		Baited	Poison	Baited
Number of manholes treated	...	723		338

Factories Act, 1937

There are 139 factories on the register ; 322 inspections were made. Outworkers premises numbered 59.

Eradication of Bed-Bugs

The number of houses found to be infested was :—

Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	67
Other Houses	...	...	...	...	...	398
Bedding removed and disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	193
Total number of rooms sprayed for Bugs, T.B., etc.						1,511
Total number of articles disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	4,538

MORTUARY

No bodies were received.

Table showing :—
 (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1950.
 (b) The number removed to Hospital.
 (Local Records).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED AT AGES	(Diagnosis Corrected) YEARS										Total cases removed to Hospital			
		Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45				
Scarlet Fever	82	—	2	3	11	8	44	12	1	1	—	—	—	39
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	
Erysipelas	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	6	4	—	
Pneumonia	54	1	—	2	4	1	17	5	2	6	4	7	5	1
Measles	211	3	20	14	27	32	111	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	201	11	12	25	26	32	91	2	—	1	1	—	—	4
Salmonella	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Causes of Deaths amongst Civilians, Live Births and Still Births
as provided by the Registrar-General:—**

CAUSES OF DEATH				Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	20	5	25
2. Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	3	2	5
3. Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	7	3	10
4. Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	1	2
6. Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	1	—	1
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8. Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	9	13	22
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	18	2	20
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	15	15
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	44	27	71
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	1	6	7
16. Diabetes	...	...	...	1	—	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	45	60	105
18. Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	60	19	79
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	10	9	19
20. Other heart disease	...	...	...	64	98	162
21. Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	6	21	27
22. Influenza	...	...	...	3	1	4
23. Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	9	18
24. Bronchitis	...	...	...	15	13	28
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	5	2	7
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	8	4	12
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	3	2	5
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	7	6	13
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	4	—	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	...	...	...	1	2	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	42	43	85
33. Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	6	2	8
34. All other accidents	...	...	...	34	3	37
35. Suicide	...	...	...	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	432	377	809

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:—

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	18	18	36
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Total	...	...	...	...	19	18	37

Births	For Infant Mortality, etc.		
	M.	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS:—			
Legitimate	998
Illegitimate	48
Total	1046
STILL BIRTHS:—			
Legitimate	21
Illegitimate	—
Total	21

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944, Gillingham is an "excepted district."

Number on School Roll	...	...	...	8994
Average attendance December, 1950	...	...	...	7742
"Periodic" cases examined	...	...	...	3307
Total medical examinations	...	...	...	5958
Visits to schools by nurses	...	...	...	378
Visits to homes by nurses	...	...	...	546
Inspections by school dentist	...	...	...	3230
Treated by school dentist	...	...	...	2764
Percentage of average attendance found verminous				8.8
Percentage of average attendance excluded for verminous conditions	...	...	...	2.5
Total attendances at various clinics (dental excluded)				5732

Nutrition

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Education, children examined at periodic medical inspections are classified as "Good," "Fair," or "Poor."

The figures for the past ten years are as follows:—

Year	Good %	Fair %	Poor %
1941	15.02	81.98	3.00
1942	20.07	74.69	5.24
1943	20.00	75.74	4.35
1944	22.14	73.03	4.83
1945	22.90	72.60	4.50
1946	19.10	77.40	3.50
1947	17.50	77.50	5.00
1948	34.80	61.80	3.40
1949	51.10	44.30	4.60
1950	81.10	17.40	1.50

Heights and Weights

Age	BOYS			GIRLS		
	Number examined	Average		Number examined	Average	
		Height in inches	Weight in lbs.		Height in inches	Weight in lbs.
5-6 years	445	44.6	44.5	433	44.3	42.0
6-7 ,,	109	45.3	48.1	81	46.0	47.3
7-8 ,,	160	50.2	58.1	186	49.3	55.0
8-9 ,,	202	51.3	60.8	178	51.0	58.4
9-10 ,	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-11 ,,	172	55.0	74.0	253	54.8	73.9
11-12 ,,	100	56.0	75.3	103	57.5	78.6
12-13 ,,	328	58.6	87.3	351	58.7	80.5
13-14 ,,	68	59.5	88.1	51	60.2	94.4
14-15 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-16 ,,	58	65.8	118.0	1	65.0	138.0
16-17 ,,	15	67.2	128.7	—	—	—

Provision of Milk

Milk is provided free of charge to all school children. During the year an average of approximately 7,706 children were supplied with milk each day. This represents 85.9% of the total number of children on the roll.

Infectious Diseases

The following summary gives the number of patients excluded during the years 1941-50 (Private schools included.)

				Scarlet Fever Cases	Diphtheria Cases
1941	...	...	...	8	2
1942	...	...	...	101	4
1943	...	...	...	222	1
1944	...	...	...	54	1
1945	...	...	...	62	1
1946	...	...	...	22	1
1947	...	...	...	31	—
1948	...	...	...	17	4
1949	..	...	...	42	—
1950	...	...	...	51	—

Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken-Pox, Mumps, etc.

				1948	1949	1950
Measles ...	...	...	...	500	177	74
German measles	...	...	—	—	3	—
Whooping cough	...	...	—	146	67	105
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	149	142	72
Mumps	...	...	...	80	9	58

Following-up by Nurses

The nurses paid 546 home visits, of which 277 were to make enquiries with regard to children suffering from infectious diseases.

Summary of Nurses Work

(1)	Total visits to schools	...	...	...	378
(2)	Attendances at routine medical inspections	—	—	—	177
(3)	Attendances at clinics	...	...	...	431
(4)	Visits to home re	—	—	—	—
(a)	Defective children	...	...	...	269
(b)	Infectious diseases	...	...	...	277
(5)	Examination of heads and bodies re cleanliness	...	...	...	21,881
(6)	Notices sent re nits (children not excluded from school)	...	...	...	186
(7)	Notices sent re nits and vermin (children excluded from school)	...	...	...	197

Attendances at Treatment Clinics

			Balmoral Gardens	Rainham	Total 1950	Total 1949
Ringworm	...	...	357	5	362	208
Ear defects	...	...	547	15	562	352
Impetigo	...	...	226	45	271	260
Scabies	{ School children Others Contacts	...	—	—	—	—
		...	—	—	—	37
		...	—	—	—	—
Other skin diseases	...	...	206	5	211	327
External eye disease	...	...	430	95	525	491
Other conditions	...	...	1,891	1,117	3,008	3,573
Totals	...	...	3,657	1,282	4,939	5,248

Children suffering from the following conditions made first attendances for inspection :—

			Balmoral Gardens	Rainham	Total 1950	Total 1949
Catarrh, sore throats, colds etc.			52	29	81	115
Vermin of head or body, nits, etc.	...	...	239	28	267	193
Ringworm	...	...	32	1	33	33
Impetigo	...	...	47	26	73	66
Scabies	{ School children Others Contacts	...	—	—	—	—
		...	—	—	—	27
		...	—	—	—	—
Other skin diseases	...	...	86	5	91	127
Defective vision, sore eyes, etc.			218	47	265	278
Nose and throat diseases	...		33	23	56	45
Tubercular and pretubercular conditions	...	...	—	—	—	—
Chorea	...	...	1	3	4	6
Epilepsy	...	...	1	—	1	—
Ear disease	...	...	73	14	87	91
Heart disease	...	...	5	—	5	5
Rheumatism	...	...	—	—	—	9
Deformities	...	...	1	8	9	14
Convalescents from infectious diseases	...	...	39	23	62	36
Other diseases and defects	...		425	444	869	995
Totals	...	...	1,252	651	1,903	2,040

Orthoptic Clinic

During the year 4 cases were referred to St Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester for the orthoptic treatment of children suffering from squint.

Nose and Throat Defects

144 children received operative treatment at All Saints and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals.

Ophthalmic Clinic

215 children made 793 attendances ; glasses were prescribed in 201 cases.

Errors of Refraction :

Hypermetropic astigmatism	...	...	45
Myopic astigmatism	...	...	58
Mixed astigmatism	...	...	35
Hypermetropia	...	...	69
Myopia	...	...	73
		Total	280

The work of the clinic may be summarised thus :—

Sessions held	...	...	...	...	46
Individual children attended	...	...	...	...	215
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	793
Glasses prescribed	...	...	...	...	201
Glasses not required or no change necessary					592
Referred to hospital	...	...	...	...	4

Handicapped Pupils requiring education at Special Schools or Boarding in Boarding Homes

1950

	Blind (1)	Partially sighted (2)	Deaf (3)	Partially deaf (4)	Delicate (5)	Physically handicapped (6)	Educationally subnormal (7)	Maladjusted (8)	Epileptic (9)	Total (10)
In the calendar year :										
A. Handicapped Pupils newly placed in Special Schools or Homes	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	—	1	8
B. Handicapped Pupils newly ascertained as requiring education at Special Schools or boarding in Homes	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	3	1	10
On or about December 1st :—										
C. No. of Handicapped pupils from the area—										
(i) attending Special Schools as										
(a) Day Pupils	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Boarding Pupils	1	3	3	—	—	3	4	1	1	16
(ii) boarded in Homes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) attending independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (C)	1	3	3	—	—	3	4	1	1	16
D. No. of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944—										
(a) in hospitals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) elsewhere	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	5
E. No. of Handicapped pupils from the area requiring places in special schools (including any such unplaced children who are temporarily receiving home tuition).	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	4

Number of children reported during the year :—

(a) under Section 57(3) (excluding any returned under (b))	—	—	1
(b) under Section 57(3) relying on Section 57(4)	—	—	—
(c) under Section 57(5)	—	—	—
of the Education Act, 1944.			
Amount spent on arrangements under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped pupils in the financial year ended 31st March, 1950	—	—	£30

Uncleanliness

The average number of visits by nurses to school departments was 4. Total examinations numbered 21,881 and 683 individual children were found unclean.

The following percentages are interesting :—

Year		Percentage of average attendance found verminous	Percentage of average attendance excluded
1941	...	6.4	2.2
1942	...	11.2	4.9
1943	...	10.9	3.3
1944	...	8.9	3.4
1945	...	7.9	2.9
1946	...	5.7	2.8
1947	...	11.5	2.9
1948	...	10.7	2.4
1949	...	8.5	2.2
1950	...	8.8	2.5

STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE I

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections

Number of inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	1,070
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	644
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	798
						—
			Total	...	...	2,512
						—
			Number of other Periodic Inspections	...	...	795
						—
			Grand Total	...	...	3,307
						—

B.—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	1,003
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	548
				—
		Total	...	...
				2,451
				—

C.—Pupils found to require treatment

Group (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table HA (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
Entrants	...	0	54
Second Age Group	...	48	165
Third Age Group	...	50	126
Total (prescribed groups)	107	249	345
Other Periodic Inspections	52	30	74
Grand Total	159	279	419

TABLE II

**A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950**

Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	No. of defects		No. of defects	
	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	I	—	91	13
Eyes—				
a. Vision	159	30	87	74
b. Squint	6	—	—	—
c. Other	14	1	178	23
Ears—				
a. Hearing	I	2	87	23
b. Otitis Media ...	I	I	—	—
c. Other	13	I	—	—
Nose or Throat	195	170	56	54
Speech	7	3	—	—
Cervical Glands ...	I	23	—	—
Heart and Circulation ...	2	59	5	3
Lungs	3	20	—	—
Developmental—				
a. Hernia	17	46	—	—
b. Other	3	5	—	—
Orthopaedic—				
a. Posture	18	10	—	—
b. Flat foot	17	I	—	—
c. Other	10	14	2	0
Nervous system—				
a. Epilepsy	—	—	—	1
b. Other	—	2	4	3
Psychological—				
a. Development	—	—	—	—
b. Stability	—	—	—	—
Other	55	58	558	311

TABLE II
B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR
IN THE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ...	1,070	929	86.8	138	12.9	3	.3
Second Age Group	644	520	82.1	101	15.7	14	2.2
Third Age Group ...	798	597	74.8	181	22.7	20	2.5
Other Periodic Inspections ...	795	626	78.8	156	19.6	13	1.6
Total	3,307	2,681	81.1	576	17.4	50	1.5

TABLE III.

**TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

GROUP I.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN
(excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

					Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
				by the Authority	otherwise	
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	...	...	...	2	I	
(ii) Body	...	...	...	27	—	
Scabies	...	...	...	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	68	—	
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	78	I	
	Total	...		175	2	

GROUP II.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

					Number of cases treated	
				by the Authority	otherwise	
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...	...	16	3	
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...			289*	I	
	Total	...		305	4	
No. of pupils for whom spectacles were						
(a) Prescribed	...	...	...	201*	—	
(b) Obtained	...	...	...	191*	—	
	Total	...		392	—	

* Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the
Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

GROUP III.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	138
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	1
Received other forms of treatment ...	64	5
Total ...	64	144

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals...	—	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	2	54

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Pupils treated—		
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	—	13
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	—	9
Total ...	—	22

GROUP VI.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	558	15
(b) Catarrh, Sore Throats, Colds, etc. ...	6	5
Total ...	564	20

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT
BY THE AUTHORITY

(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—			
(a)	Periodic age groups		1,796	
(b)	Specials		1,434	
		Total (1) ...	3,230	
(2)	Number found to require treatment	...	2,604	
(3)	Number referred for treatment	...	2,604	
(4)	Number actually treated	...	2,764	
(5)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment		5,270	
(6)	Half-days devoted to : Inspection	...	9	
	Treatment	...	493	
		Total (6) ...	502	
(7)	Fillings : Permanent Teeth		2,316	
	Temporary Teeth		861	
		Total (7) ...	3,177	
(8)	Number of teeth filled: Permanent Teeth		2,316	
	Temporary Teeth		861	
		Total (8) ...	3,177	
(9)	Extractions : Permanent Teeth		434	
	Temporary Teeth		3,150	
		Total (9) ...	3,584	
(10)	Administration of general anasethetics for extraction		2,250	
(11)	Other operations : Permanent Teeth ...		1,100	
	Temporary Teeth ...		281	
		Total (11) ...	1,381	

TABLE V.
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	21,881
(ii)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	683
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944).	2
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	2